

Remarks

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

No new matter is added. Support for the added language ("wherein the layer is not separated from the substrate") is found for instance in the sentence bridging pages 2 and 3 and on page 5, lines 28-31 which indicate that the substrate and the layer form for example a photoreceptor and thus the layer cannot be separated from the substrate or else there would not be a photoreceptor. Moreover, it is well known to those of ordinary skill in the art that in fabricating a photoreceptor the dip coated layer(s) is not separated from the substrate.

Support for the added language ("the first recessed portion is non-detachable from the substrate") is found for example on page 3 and in FIGS. 1-4, where the first recessed surface portion (18A, 18B, 18C, and 18D) is formed as a non-detachable feature of the first end region (12A, 12B, 12C, and 12D).

Support for the deletion in claim 12 ("the surface area of the first end region is greater by at least about 5% than the surface area of a hypothetical level first end region") is found for example on page 4, lines 16-17, wherein the specification states: "To increase the surface area, any suitable recessed surface portion may be employed in the first end region and the second end region."

For the Form PTO-1449 submitted on December 19, 2001, the Examiner initialed every document citation except for the three applications (listed under "Other Documents"), where the Examiner crossed out the three citations and noted "No publn dates." In response, applicants are submitting with this Amendment a supplemental Form PTO-1449 which provides the US application publication numbers for the three applications cited in the December 19, 2001 Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to return an initialed copy of the supplemental Form PTO-1449.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph for the reason provided in section 5. Applicants disagree with this rejection because the claimed feature at issue is fully discussed in the application at for example pages 4-5. However, applicants are cancelling from

the claims the claimed feature at issue solely for the purpose of expedited prosecution.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4 and 12-14 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Hughes, US Patent 4,627,808. This rejection is respectfully traversed because Hughes fails to anticipate the present claims. Hughes discloses apparatus for making hard capsules wherein the hard capsules are stripped from the capsule forming apparatus (see, e.g., abstract). In contrast, the present claims recite that the layer is not separated from the substrate. Thus, with respect to whether the layer remains on the substrate, Hughes and the claimed invention are taking opposite approaches.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Crump et al., US Patent 5,385,759. This rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of these rejected claims.

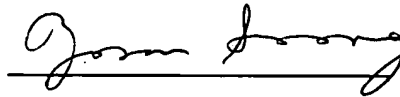
The Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herbert et al., US Patent 5,683,742 in view of Crump et al., US Patent 5,385,759. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Herbert is deficient since it fails to disclose a recessed surface portion at a substrate's end region. Crump fails to remedy this deficiency. In Crump, the tapered regions (22, 26, and 32) are found on the couplers (16, 20), not on the substrate 18. Moreover, the present claims recite that "the first recessed portion is non-detachable from the substrate" which is not the situation with Crump's apparatus since the couplers (16, 20) are detachable from the substrate 18.

Applicants disagree with the Examiner's position that the dependent claims are unpatentable, but need not at this time specifically address the Examiner's comments regarding these dependent claims since independent claim 12 is patentable over the cited references and thus the dependent claims are also patentable over the references.

No additional fee is believed to be required; however, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

In view of the foregoing, the present application as amended is in condition for allowance. In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he is hereby requested to call the undersigned attorney at (585) 423-4292, Rochester, NY.

Respectfully submitted,



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